

## SOME THINGS OF INTEREST OF NEW MEXICO

Civilization is older in New Mexico than in any other part of the United States. At the time of the discovery of the American continent this state had a large and industrious population either Aztec or Toltec, who had their walled towns, their stone dwellings several stories in height, their manufactures of cotton and wool, their rude but effective weapons of war, and who cultivated and irrigated the soil.

The Spanish adventurers Alvar Nunez, Marco de Niza and Coronado penetrated this region in 1537, 1539 and 1540. In 1581-82 the country was explored by Spaniards, from whose account it was named New Mexico. Between 1595 and 1599 Juan d Onate was sent thither by the viceroy of Mexico to establish forts, colonies and missions, and to take possession of the whole country in the name of the King of Spain. Onate was successful, but in 1680 the Indians rose and drove out the Spanish. In 1698 the Spaniards regained a portion of their former power. In 1822 the inhabitants of New Mexico united with those of Mexico in throwing off the yoke of Spain, and thence forward until 1846 they were governed in the same way with the other states of Mexico.

In 1846 Gen. Stephen Kearny, with a small United States force, captured Santa Fe, and soon afterward conquered the whole territory and raised the United States flag there. In 1848 the region was ceded to the United States by the treaty of Gaudalup Hidalgo. By the treaty of Dec. 30, 1853, what was known as the Gadsden purchase was added to the territorial area, which then comprised the whole of Arizona and a portion of what is now Colorado. Arizona was set off from it in 1863 and the portion of Colorado in 1865. In 1859 the Legislature passed a law recognizing the existence of slavery in the territory, but this was repealed in 1861, and with it was abolished the system of peonage—a modified salary which had existed for 2 1/2 centuries.

Efforts to secure the admission of New Mexico into the Union as a state were begun prior to its creation as a territory. However, they were not successful until 1911, when New Mexico came in with Arizona, the joint resolution of Congress being signed on the 21st day of August last. Upon receipt of the news at Santa Fe that President Taft had affixed his signature to the statehood bill, Miss Madeline Mills, a daughter of Governor Mills, hauled up on the capitol staff a large flag with 48 stars. That same evening a monster non-partisan statehood celebration took place in the public plaza in Santa Fe, while the city was lighted with bonfires and a great fire burned on the top of Ft. Marcy, overlooking the city. Among the speakers were seven judges of the supreme court, the Governor and four past governors of New Mexico.

New Mexico today has a population of 327,301. Its motto is "Crescit Eundo," or, put into English, "It Increases by Going."

The idea that it is on the ragged edge of civilization is entirely erroneous, declares a state official, who says: "Every settlement has its church and its schoolhouse, and social organizations and fraternities were formed in the centers of population as long as 50 years ago, the Masonic and Odd Fellows lodges at Santa Fe, for instance, both having celebrated their semi-centennial. Irrigation works, a network of railroads, modern mercantile establishments, colleges, academies, high schools, institutions of charity, etc., all testify to a determination to keep abreast of the times. On all sides are evidences of civic pride manifested in beautiful homes, prosperous farms and progress along every line of public and private activity."

The principal source of wealth and industry in New Mexico has been the mines and will be for some years, but agricultural has come to divide with mining the world's attention and is sure to become a profitable industry. This has not been advertised widely only because it is little more than in its beginning, and because, until now, the pioneer settlers have not realized the superior value of land and climate. More than this, immigration hated farther east, taking homesteads in the public domain. About all this land now has been taken and settlers, moving farther west, find that by irrigation in the mountain valleys they may produce crops more abundantly than in the valleys and prairies of humid regions "back east." Moreover, they find that the mesas and plains lying above possible irrigation may be made to produce by "dry farming," and so New Mexico, as other far western sections, so long neglected in the general rush for homes, has become a land of promise. Within two years there were 30,000 original entries of public lands, covering more than 5,000,000 acres, and in addition much new population settled uplands reclaimed by irrigation. The government has reclamation projects completed or in progress in New Mexico that will cost in the neighborhood of \$10,000,000.

New Mexico contains 122,580 square miles (78,451,200 acres). It forms part of the lofty tableland which is the foundation of the Rocky mountain ranges as well as those of the Sierra Madre. The principal river is the Rio Grande, which has a general direction from north to south, but is not navigable in any of its course through New Mexico. It receives from the west two tributaries, the Rio Chama and the Rio Puerco, and from the east several smaller streams. The Rio Pecos, a large affluent of the Rio Grande, drains the southeastern and eastern portion and the Canadian river and two or three of its branches the northeastern. The western portion is drained by the large tributaries of the Colorado, particularly by the San Juan, Little Colorado and Gila.

The mountain ranges are partly covered with pine, cedar, spruce and other evergreens. The foothills have extensive tracts of pinon or nut pine and a smaller cedar, and in the river bottoms are belts of cottonwood, sycamore, and other deciduous trees. About 5,000,000 acres are covered with merchantable timber.

New Mexico is a storehouse of minerals, more than 200 kinds being found within her borders.

Among them are diamonds, rubies and platinum. Officials of the geological survey say that the coal fields of New Mexico are greater in extent than those of Pennsylvania. Gold and silver are abundant. Copper is found in very rich ores in several parts. Galena mines in the Organ mountains yield 80 per cent of pure lead, besides \$50 worth of silver to the ton.

Wheat is a sure crop in New Mexico if sown early. The yield per acre is equal to the yield in the wheat growing states. New Mexico wheat received first premium at the world's fair at Chicago and at other expositions. Rye, barley, millet and other cereal crops do well. While alfalfa is the main forage crop, there are some 20 or 30 grasses which grow wild and are harvested. Corn stands next to alfalfa in acreage and value of total crop. Sorghum yields good crops and in many localities is grown for its sugar content. New Mexico ranks among localities suited to the growth of high grade sugar beets.

The growing of fruit is assuming large proportions in New Mexico. The apple flourishes, the peach succeeds, apricots have long been raised, cherries and plums are being cultivated and the state is celebrated for its grapes. Small fruit does well and yields big profits.

A pamphlet entitled "New Mexico, the Land of Sunshine," claims that New Mexico has more free homesteads than any other state. The plentiful supply of free government land yet open is one of its chief attractions.

Immense percentage gains are shown for New Mexico in a statement of the general results of the census of manufactures.

To be continued

## Federal Appointments

Washington, Jan. 15.—President Taft today sent the following nominations to the senate.

William H. Pope of Roswell as United States judge for New Mexico, S. B. Davis of Las Vegas as district attorney; John W. March of Santa Fe as surveyor general.

It is said here that the nomination of Sec. Romero, as United States marshal, has been held up at the request of Congressman H. B. Ferguson.

## SHIRLEY HOME A TOTAL LOSS

The residence of I. N. Shirley, northwest of town was destroyed by fire yesterday morning about five o'clock. One of the members of the family had been up and built a fire, returning to bed, until the room should warm up a little. In some way the woodwork caught and the fire gained headway before it was discovered. Very little of the household goods was saved, almost all being destroyed. The insurance of one thousand dollars will not nearly cover the loss, which will fall heavy on the family.

Joe Halzman, the Corona merchant, passed through Sunday en route to Santa Fe to see the big doings.

## Some New State Facts

New Mexico, the last state to be admitted to the union, has one of the brightest and the most promising future of any of the states at the time of admission. A glance at the position now occupied by New Mexico in the comparison with the older states, will be a source of much surprise to many and a source of gratification to every citizen. Her rank is as follows:

First—according to the census of the Department of Commerce and Labor in having the least number of families living in mortgaged homes.

Second—In unappropriated and unreserved land area; second only to Montana.

Third—In the production of wool. Last year 19,000,000 pounds were produced.

Fifth—In the production of lead.

Fifth—In the per cent of increase in population. The last census gives the increase as 67 per cent.

Eighth—In the production of silver. New Mexico also stands eighth in the production of coal and the amount produced amounts to \$7,500,000.

Ninth—In the production of Copper which has amounted to \$2,000,000.

Tenth—In the production of Gold. Over 363,454 ounces has been produced.

Eleventh—In the production of apples. Her production of pears, peaches, onions and canteloups, is very high.

Twelfth—In the production of Sugar Beets; over 4,000 tons.

Sixteenth—In the Petroleum, area of eighty square miles.

Thirtieth—In the live stock industry. Valued at over \$32,000,000.

Thirty First—In hay, with over six thousand tons of alfalfa alone.

Thirty Second—In mineral production with nearly \$8,000,000 to her credit.

Thirty Third—In railroad mileage according to an old report. Probably ranks much higher now.

Thirty Fourth—In wheat production. Also in the production of lumber and oats.

Thirty Fifth—In the production of corn.

Fortieth—In the investment of employed capital.

Forty First—In the number of Library Volumes.

Forty Third—In population.

Forty Fourth—In the number of school attendance and professors. Also of undeveloped horsepower.—Tucumcari News.

## Policeman Knapp Succumbs

Patrolman Knapp of Albuquerque, who was shot a week ago last Saturday and who as late as last Thursday it was thought would recover, took a turn for the worse and died at one o'clock this morning.

Mr. Knapp was a very popular officer and this will be sad news for the relatives and friends.

The Blue Ballot Amendment was defeated in only seven out of twenty six counties. The

Spanish-American Counties adopted it by a two thirds majority. This shows very plainly that the leaders of the Republican party in convention at Las Vegas made a fatal mistake when they opposed its adoption. No doubt they have seen their mistake, and as a political move, would not do the same thing again. This was not the only mistake they made. They placed a man at the head of their state ticket that was not acceptable to many of the voters of their party. It has been rumored that the Senate will try to dictate some of Governor McDonalds appointments, as it will be necessary for that body to approve them before they go into effect. It would be well for the Senate to think well before they commit another blunder. The voters of this new state have their eyes open, and the action of the senate as well as that of the house of delegates will be closely watched, and if there is any attempt on the part of either body to thwart the will of the Governor in carrying out what he believes is for the good of the citizens of the state, those voters will be heard from when election day rolls around again. The Republican leaders had better take warning.—Tucumcari Sun.

Congressman H. B. Fergusson has appointed as his secretary J. R. Martinez, a young New Mexican, now in Washington. Mr. Martinez is a nephew of Malaquias Martinez, candidate for lieutenant governor on the republican ticket and of Severine Martinez, candidate for corporation commissioner on the democratic ticket, both of whom were defeated in the November election. The position of secretary to a congressman, which is considered a desirable one in that it gives a young man unusual opportunity to get acquainted with the machinery of government at Washington, pays a salary of \$1,500 per annum.

## Died

On Saturday afternoon Rev. R. P. Pope conducted the funeral of Charley Meadlin, at the Estancia Cemetery, southwest of town. Deceased was the younger son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Meadlin, who came to the Valley only a couple of weeks ago from Texas, locating nine miles south of Estancia. Death occurred on the 11th of January, 1912, after a short illness. Deceased had just passed the age of fourteen years, and leaves besides his parents, a brother and sister both of whom with their wife and husband, are living near the parents.

The bereaved family have the heartfelt sympathy of the community in their loss.

## Another Dilemma

Santa Fe, N. M., Jan. 10—Another annoying dilemma of transition from territory to state developed today when the six federal land officers of New Mexico were advised by the commissioner of the general land office that commissions of all United States commissioners expired with issuing of the statehood proclamation and that all affidavits attested to by them since Saturday are void.